

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CONAKR 00157 291256Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----291335Z 110737 /41

R 291228Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2711

S E C R E T CONAKRY 0157

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PFOR PGOV PDIP GV
SUBJECT: SOVIET TU-95 DEPLOYMENT

1. DURING 90-MINUTE MEETING WITH GUINEAN AMBASSADOR-
DESIGNATE KOUROUMA JANUARY 28, AMBASSADOW UNDERLINED
HIS DISAPPOINTMENT AND CONCERN THAT SOVIET ELECTRONIC
SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT HAD RETURNED TO CONAKRY 27 JANUARY
FOR 18TH DEPLOYMENT. AMBASSADOR TOLD KOUROUMA THAT
GUINEA'S CONTINUED SUPPORT OF SOVIET MILITARY RECON-
NAISSANCE US FLEET WAS BOUND TO HAMPER HIS MISSION IN
WASHINGTON.

2. KOUROUMA PARROTED NOW-CLASSIC GOG LINE A) THAT GUINEA
WAS TOTALLY NONALIGNED AND WOULD NEVER FACILITATE
ESPIONNAGE BY ONE GREAT POWER AGAINST ANOTHER, B) THAT SOVIET
DEPLOYMENTS WERE NEEDED TO PROTECT GUINEA FROM MERCENARY
ATTACK FROM IVORY COAST AND SENEGAL (WHICH ALL THE MORE
MENACING AFTER COTONOU "INVASION"), C) THAT U.S.
HAD FAILED TO PROVIDE SECURITY GUARANTY GUINEA NEEDED
AND D) THAT SINCE BILATERAL RELATIONS DEPENDED UPON
REPORTING BY EMBASSIES AMBASSADOR MUST HAVE FAILED TO
EXPLAIN GUINEAN POINT OF VIEW TO WASHINGTON. KOUROUMA
SAID (IN GREAT CONFIDENCE*) THAT GOG HAS CONFRONTED
SOVIETS WITH US ALLEGATIONS AND THAT SOVIETS HAS ASSURED
SECRET

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GOG THE BEARS WERE NOT REPEAT NOT SURVEILLING US FLEET.
KOUROUMA ENDED WITH FLIMSY, VAGUE EFFORT TO RELATE BEAR
DEPLOYMENTS TO INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

3. AMBASSADOR SAID US GOVERNMENT MUST BASE ITS JUDGMENTS
AND ACTIONS ON ESTABLISHED FACTS. BEARS FROM CONAKRY WERE
REGULARLY SIGHTED BY ELEMENTS US FLEET THOUSANDS OF MILES

FROM GUINEA. WE HAD REPEATEDLY INFORMED GOG OF OUR CONCERN AND HAD REQUESTED THAT THESE DEPLOYMENTS BE HALTED. WE WERE FORCED TO CONCLUDE THAT GOG HAD DECIDED TO FOREGO NONALIGNMENT IN FAVOR OF MILITARY SUPPORT POLICIES UNFRIENDLY TO AMERICAN SECURITY INTERESTS.

4. AFTER AN AMICABLE EXCHANGE ON SEVERAL OTHER TOPICS (MEMCON SEPARATELY), KOUROUMA LEFT EMBASSY FOR LUNCH WITH SEKOU TOURE. HE SAID HE WOULD REPORT OUR DISCUSSION TO PRESIDENT.

5. COMMENT: BELIEVE IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT US MAINTAIN STERN PRESSURE ON GOG REGARDING THIS ISSUE.
HARROP

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MEETINGS, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CONAKR00157
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770033-0025
Format: TEL
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977016/aaaaaejl.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 235d70da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3616849
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET TU-95 DEPLOYMENT
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PDIP, US, GV, (KOUROUMA, DAOUDA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/235d70da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009